GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5394
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2008
TEMPERING IN STD/ISD/PCO BOOTHS
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bill Meters installed in local STD/ISD/PCOs of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and other private companies in public places especially in the premise of Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi have been tempered with the said PCO operators are charging more rates telephone calls than prescribed rates;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken/propose to take steps to inspect and keep a watch on the said telephone booths in public places especially in Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi premise especially the booths of private operators.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken /being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) to (d) Private Companies:

PCOs of private companies are not monitored by the Government.

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL): No case tempering of Local/STD/ISD/PCOs has acome to the notice during this year in general and in the premises of Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi in particular.

Two cases of over charging by PCO operators have come to notice in MTNL, Delhi. However, no case of overcharging by PCO operators in the premises of Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi has come to the notice of MTNL.

The following actions are taken for proper functioning of PCOs in MTNL:

1. The regular inspection and surprise checks of Local/STD/ISD/PCOs are conducted.

2. The complaints are investigated on priority basis/necessary action for issue of warning and disconnection of PCO is taken accordingly.